



National Aeronautics and
Space Administration



Langley Research Center Safety Alert

SA-03-00

Date: July 20, 2000

TO: All Facility Safety Heads
All Facility Coordinators

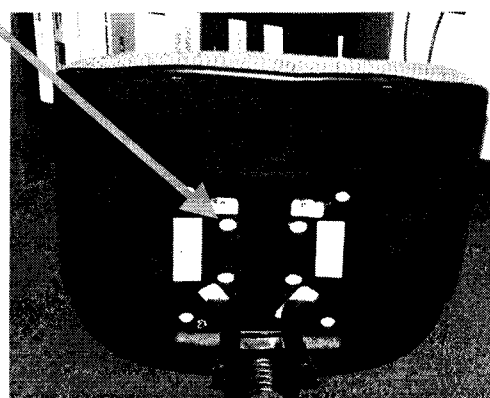
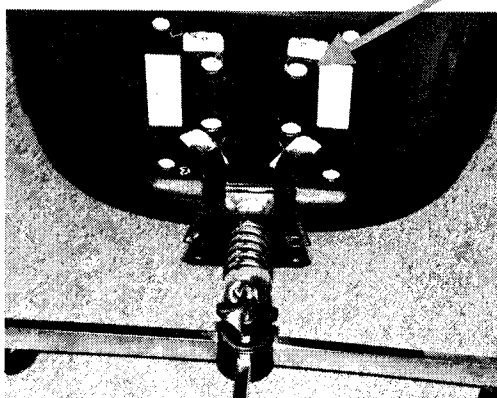
FROM: 429/Head, Office of Safety and Facility Assurance, OSMA

SUBJECT: Chair Hazard

On July 5, 2000, an incident occurred in which an employee sustained a head contusion as a result of a fall from an office chair that broke when the employee sat down. Investigation determined that the heads of the front two bolts holding the base of the chair to the seat of the chair had apparently sheared off at an earlier date and only the back two bolts were holding the base to the seat. When the employee sat in the chair it tipped backwards causing the employee to fall backwards and strike his head on a bookcase.

The chair was manufactured in May 1990 by the Harvard Interiors Manufacturing Company and purchased through GSA with a Stock Number of 7110-01-188-3953. Photographs of the chair and its labeling are provided below.

Bolts sheared at this point

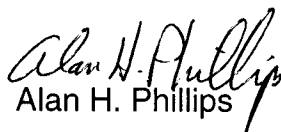


GDF115-0008	MFG 05/91 BLK #
003753	
GDF115-XX-XX-XX-XX-L95	
"WARRANTED ITEM"	
"IF DEFECTIVE CONTACT GSA"	
CONTRACT NO. GS-00F-12309	
NSN 7110-01-188-3953	
HARVARD INTERIORS MFG. CO.	4 CF 50

Label found on underside of chair seat

To prevent recurrence of this type of incident, please inspect the chairs in your facility and if any defects are noted, initiate the appropriate repair or disposal of the chair.

Any questions should be directed to the Office of Safety and Facility Assurance at extension 47233.


Alan H. Phillips
47233

421/HTG

